

(c) If a payor Reserve Bank returns unpaid a FedSelect check solely as a result of § 247.8(d), the agency that issued the original FedSelect check may issue, at its discretion, another FedSelect check, or other form of payment, to a payee or holder upon surrender of the original FedSelect check and execution of such indemnification agreement as may be required by the agency.

(d) Upon verification of the existence of a forged or unauthorized indorsement on a FedSelect check which has been finally paid, the agency that issued the original FedSelect check may issue, at its discretion, another FedSelect check or other form of payment to the person entitled. Disputes as to any continuing obligations for payment remain between the agency that issued the payment and the payee. Prior to the issuance of another FedSelect check, the payee or indorsee of the original FedSelect check may be required to execute an affidavit asserting that the payee or indorsee was in no way involved in the fraudulent or unauthorized indorsement of the original FedSelect check, in addition to any indemnification agreement required by the agency.

(e) In the case of a FedSelect check payable to the order of two or more persons, the requirements of this section apply to all designated payees.

§ 247.10 Losses and accountability.

(a) Agencies will be accountable for all losses arising out of agency activity related to the issuance of FedSelect checks. Such activities include negligence, fraud perpetrated by an employee or agent of the agency, and fraud perpetrated by a service-provider or vendor receiving a FedSelect check as payment.

(b) If an agency had notice that a FedSelect check was not received by the payee within a reasonable time after a payment is due, or that a FedSelect check is lost, stolen or destroyed, and the agency failed to request to the FMS that a stop payment order be placed on that item pursuant to § 247.9(a), the agency will be accountable for any loss occurring as a result of the failure to request stop payment in a timely fashion.

(c) Losses caused by the fault or negligence of the FMS will be the accountability of the FMS. Such losses include failure to adhere to a request by an agency to place a stop payment order on an item in accordance with § 247.9(a).

(d) The FMS will be accountable for losses caused by third-parties, including losses caused by alteration, counterfeit and forgery of the payee indorsement, unless such losses occur as described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

§ 247.11 Debt collection.

(a) Agencies are responsible for collection procedures on all improperly paid items arising under the circumstances described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of § 247.10. However, excepting cases of fraud, an agency should write off a debt and refer it to the FMS for collection if it is not resolved within 90 days after the item was paid. When the FMS collects on the debt, the funds will be returned to the agency minus an administrative fee for the collection, in accordance with rules set forth in I TFM 4-3500. Accountability for a debt remains with the agency in accordance with § 247.10.

(b) The FMS is responsible for collection procedures on all improperly paid items arising under the circumstances described in paragraphs (c) and (d) of § 247.10. With all such items, the FMS will make an initial demand for refund of the amount of a check payment to the presenting bank or any other debtor. This demand shall advise the presenting bank or debtor of the amount demanded and the reason for the demand. All delinquent debts will be subject to interest, penalties and administrative fees in accordance with the Federal Claims Collections Standards. Any discrepancies should be brought to the attention of the FMS.

§ 247.12 Funds for losses.

(a) If collection efforts by the FMS for debts arising under paragraphs (c) and (d) of § 247.10 are unsuccessful, sources of funds for the payment of such losses include FMS appropriations, to the extent available, funds collected from reimbursement fees for services provided by the FMS pursuant

to § 247.5(b), and other available sources.

(b) Reimbursement fees paid by agencies to the FMS for FedSelect check services will be retained for payment of uncollectible losses, consistent with all applicable laws.

§ 247.13 Additional requirements.

In any case or any class of cases arising under these regulations, the FMS or the agency that issued the FedSelect check may require such additional evidence of loss, improper indorsement or entitlement to a replacement as may be necessary for the protection of the interests of the United States.

§ 247.14 Waiver of regulations.

The FMS reserves the right to waive any provision(s) of these regulations in any case or class of cases for the convenience of the United States or in order to relieve any person(s) of unnecessary hardship, if such action is not inconsistent with law, does not impair any existing rights, and the FMS is satisfied that such action will not subject the United States to any substantial expense or liability.

§ 247.15 Supplements, amendments or revisions.

The FMS may, at any time, prescribe supplemental, amendatory, or revised regulations, or revoke the regulations in this part.

PART 248—ISSUE OF SUBSTITUTES OF LOST, STOLEN, DESTROYED, MUTILATED AND DEFACED CHECKS OF THE UNITED STATES DRAWN ON ACCOUNTS MAINTAINED IN DEPOSITARY BANKS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES OR UNITED STATES TERRITORIES OR POSSESSIONS

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AUTHORITY: 31 U.S.C. 3331.

SOURCE: 25 FR 10869, Nov. 16, 1960, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 39 FR 20969, June 17, 1974.

§ 248.1 Introductory.

This part governs the issuance of substitutes for checks of the United States drawn on United States dollar or foreign currency accounts, maintained with designated depositories in foreign countries or territories or possessions of the United States. Checks of the United States drawn on such depositories are hereafter referred to as "depository checks."

[54 FR 35647, Aug. 29, 1989]

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

§ 248.2 Delegation of authority to issue substitute checks.

Pursuant to authority contained in section 3646 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, and subject to such procedural requirements as may be prescribed by the Treasury Department, there is hereby delegated to heads of departments and agencies whose disbursing officers issue depository checks, authority to authorize officers or employees of their respective departments or agencies to issue substitutes of such checks, prior to the close of the fiscal year next following the fiscal year in which the checks are issued, and to receive and approve undertakings to indemnify the United States in such cases. The Commissioner of the Financial Management Service, Treasury Department, is hereby delegated authority to issue substitutes of depository checks drawn by the Director, Operations Group, Treasury Department, or by officers disbursing under delegation from the Director, Operations Group, and to receive and approve undertakings of indemnity in such cases. The authority delegated to the Commissioner of the Financial